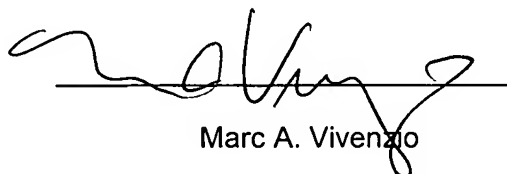




Lang et al.
10/030,519

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and any paper or document referred to therein as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited on July 15, 2002 with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231.


Marc A. Vivanzo

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6 3762
IDS
8/10/02

In re the application of:
LANG et al.

Examiner:

Serial No.: 10/030,519

Art Unit:

Filed: 10/29/2001

Attorney
Docket No.: TRG-299

Title: Medical Electrode

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. It is believed that no fee is due at the present time as this statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). However, should any fee be missing or insufficient, authorization is hereby given to charge said fee (or credit any overpayment) to deposit account number 12-2147.

Filed herewith are copies of each of the seven references listed on attached form PTO-1449. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), concise explanations of relevance are provided below for references EP416159A1 and DE2018239A1, which are not in the English language. Regarding reference DE4231236A, which is also not in the English language, a copy of the English language version of the Search Report citing said reference and indicating the degree of relevance of said reference is attached hereto in accordance with section 609(A)(3) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), second full paragraph, in fulfillment of the 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(3)(i) concise explanation of relevance requirement.

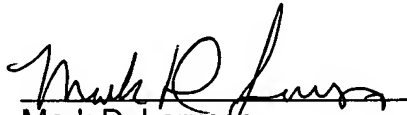
EP416159A1 discloses a multi-part, flat electrode, especially an indifferent electrode for an HF surgical apparatus, which is arranged on one side of a common support. When using a partial electrode as a secondary electrode for a symmetry measurement of partial currents at the other partial electrodes, in order to ensure that no contact surface uniformity can occur in the event of a rectilinear separating edge in any desired direction, the multi-part electrode has at least three flat partial electrodes of essentially the same size. Of a total of at least four partial electrodes, at least two adjacent partial electrodes with, in each case, an identical boundary line, are arranged parallel and adjacent to at least one section of a separate circumferential line on the remaining partial electrodes.

DE2018239A1 relates to a plate electrode for use in surgical diathermy or electrosurgical apparatus. The electrode is a thin flexible sheet of metal foil backed by a flexible film of plastics material.

While this statement contains all relevant information presently known to the Applicants, it should not be interpreted as a representation that an exhaustive search has been conducted or that no other relevant information exists. Moreover, the Applicants invite the Examiner to make an independent evaluation of the cited references to determine their relevance to the subject matter of the present application.

Finally, the Applicants urge that their claims are patentably distinguishable over all disclosed relevant information or any combination thereof.

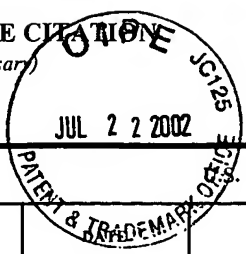
Respectfully Submitted,
Lorusso & Loud


Mark D. Lorusso
Reg. No. 41,955

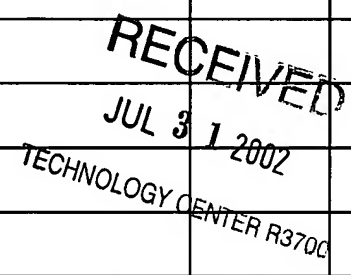
Dated: July 15, 2002

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Fax: 617-723-4609

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) TRG-299		Application Number 10/030,519	
				Applicant(s) Lang et al.			
				Filing Date 10/29/2001		Group Art Unit	



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,186,729	02/05/1980	Harrison	128	1.3	11/25/1977
		5,114,424	05/19/1992	Hagen et al.	606	32	08/27/1990



FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		CA 1 219 642 A	03/24/1987	Canada	61	B	✓	
		EP 416 159 A1	03/13/1991	Europe - EPO	61	B		✓
		WO 91/19531	12/26/1991	WIPO	61	N	✓	
		DE 2 018 239 A1	11/19/1970	Germany	61	N		✓
		DE 42 31 236 A1	03/24/1994	Germany	61	B		✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		
		International Search Report for PCT/AT00/00098

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.